

CANADIAN POWER AND SAIL SQUADRON
Western Ontario District Conference/Council Meeting

The Meeting was called to order at 1930 on September 15, 1999 at the Wardsville Masonic Hall..

1. ROLL CALL

Officers

D/C Tony Pritchard, <u>N</u>	D/Lt/C Rod Wraith, <u>N</u>
D/LT/C Pat Pearson, <u>AP</u>	D/Lt Keith Roberts, <u>N</u>
P/D/C Bob Gallagher, <u>N</u>	Lt/C John Pegg
D/Lt Jerry Menard, S	D/Lt Al Hinge, <u>AP</u>
P/D/C Jack Wittig	

Past Commanders

P/D/C Earl Speller, <u>AP</u>	P/D/C Frank Kelly, <u>N</u>
P/D/C Doug Wilson, <u>N</u>	P/D/C Ken Cucksey, <u>N</u>
P/D/C Jay Connor	

Squadron Delegates

CHATHAM , 297 (6)	Lt/C Brad Wygiera, <u>AP</u>
Cdr George Prins	P/Cdr Jack Pearson
P/Cdr John Davis, <u>AP</u>	

ERIE SHORES, 153 (5)

P/D/C Frank Kelly, <u>N</u>	Adele Kelly
-----------------------------	-------------

GODERICH, 149 (5)

Cdr Walter Evans, P

LONDON, 1086 (22)

Lt/C Glenn McCann, <u>AP</u>	R/C Mary Pritchard
------------------------------	--------------------

Donna Gallagher

SARNIA, 288 (6)

Cdr Chris Schooley	P/Cdr Paul Campbell
--------------------	---------------------

ST THOMAS, 185 (5)

Cdr Jay Connor, AP

STRATFORD, 147 (5)

Cdr Gary Bidgood

TILLSONBURG, 340 (7)

Cdr Joan Hicks

WALLACEBURG, 92 (5)

Cdr Mike Croxford	Lt/C Jack Colyer
-------------------	------------------

1st/Lt Greg Ford

WINDSOR, 640 (13)

Cdr Mark Stock, S

Guests:

None:

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

*** Moved by Lt/C Glenn McCann, seconded by Cdr Joan Hicks, that the minutes of the meeting of June 19, 1999, be approved as printed and circulated.

**** CARRIED****

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

1. D/C Tony reports re: Changes to the District AGM Format. A memo was sent to all District Bridge Officers, and to the ten Squadron Commanders, asking the latter to send copies to their Bridge Officers. He only received two replies, one from Brian Govan and one from Joe Gatfield. Both made interesting comments for improvements but were basically in favour of retaining the current format. He assumed that the Commanders got his inquiry, and from the few responses, apparently no-one

thought a change of format was worth pursuing, so he thought that it was the end of the matter for this year. He hoped that means that each Squadron will be sending several Bridge members for the entire Conference in Goderich next April.

Goderich Squadron stated they did not receive the blue notice and requested that this be discussed at this meeting. D/Lt/C Rod said that Goderich certainly wanted to comment on the format of the Conference and that Cdr Wally had a resolution drafted to put before the Conference. D/C Tony agreed that this matter would be discussed further under new business.

2. D/C Tony pointed out that we need to decide soon on a location for the Rendezvous for 2001. Next year it is of course in Sarnia. He would like to see a Squadron volunteer to run it, and thinks it would be time to accommodate our Lake Erie boaters. Remember that last year, London Squadron ran one in Sarnia, so you do not have to be on the spot to run it. Any volunteers? St Thomas volunteered to look after it.

3. D/C Tony mention the suggested "staggered dues" collection by National last meeting, but with your permission will also cover this later.

Are there any other items arising from the minutes?

4. CORRESPONDENCE:

D/C Tony reported the following correspondence:

1. The Squadron Commanders should have received a letter from P/C/C Art Charles regarding the CPS Foundation and the Honour Roll. I hope the Squadrons will respond favourably to his appeal. Meanwhile, our District budget earmarks \$500 for the Foundation, and maybe we should be sending this now.

Treasurer John Pegg read out a summary of the past history of donations to the Foundation. In the last 10 years, we have contributed to the foundation in 8 years. P/D/C Earl Speller pointed out that the proposed Policy Manual suggests the District give \$250. a year, to be presented by the D/C at the National AGM. Although \$500 was included in the budget, he thought that the District should only give \$250 because the Squadrons already give X number of bucks on there own.

****Moved by P/D/C Earl Speller, seconded by P/Cdr Jack Pearson, that a sum of \$250. be presented to the Foundation this year at the National AGM.

****CARRIED****

***Car

2. D/C Tony suggested at the June Governing Board meeting to the National Secretary and the Chair of Rules that we needed to have published definitions of the different types of meetings, i.e. open, restricted etc.. Gord Springate (Rules) has now produced this and it will be added to the Operational Manual. In the meantime, if anyone wants to review this, he has a copy with him.

3. D/C Tony has a letter from Heather Fitzsimmons, Chair - Prizes - National AGM'99 Committee, asking for a donation of an item as a door prize (\$10 to \$50). The matter was discussed

and the following action taken.

****** Moved by P/Cdr Jack Pearson, seconded by P/R/C Doug Wilson, that the District donate a gift of up to approximately \$50 in value as a door prize at the National AGM, and that D/Lt/C Rod Wraith undertake this task.**

******CARRIED******

4. D/C Tony received a memo from Ron Smith (Chair - Marketing Committee) regarding representation and input at the Marketing/PR/Membership meeting at the National Conference and turned this over to Wayne Brown to handle.

5. REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS:

D/C Tony Pritchard, N

On behalf of the District I thank Cdr Mark Stock and the Windsor Squadron for organizing the Rendezvous on Boblo Island, and also thank the other Squadrons who helped. Those of us who attended, even those of us who could not get their boats there, had a great time, and it was a pity that attendance was not better. While on the subject of attendance, I would like to remind Squadron Commanders that traditionally we hold one of our regular District Meetings at the Rendezvous, being the last one before the summer season. Even if you cannot attend the full Rendezvous you should be sending a representative and a report from your Squadron. (However, I must commend those Squadron Commanders who, though they could not attend, did send in a report to the D/Sec prior to that meeting.)

Also, on behalf of the District I thank Cdr Joan Hicks and the Tillsonburg Squadron for putting on such a good show for the USPS Ensign trip, including escorts by the OPP and CCG. I posted a comment on cps.mail and that was picked up and put on the USPS web-site. Also Rod and Wayne combined to write a story and I will let Wayne comment on that. I also thank all of those members who took photos and videos.

Mary and I were pleased to attend St. Thomas Squadron's barbeque in Port Stanley last month. Cdr Paul Westelaken had to withdraw for personal reasons, and P/D/C J Connor has taken over as Commander for the balance of the term. I also pledged Gene Mooney as Executive Officer, and three Boating graduates.

As the National Conference/AGM is in Niagara Falls next month, I hope that we have a good representation from the District. Squadron Commanders and other interested members who are not planning to attend the Conference should consider going to the actual AGM on Saturday morning at 0830. It would be great if all of our Squadrons were represented.

An item that I neglected to report at the last meeting was a motion passed by the Governing Board regarding the wholesale price of the BoatPro Manual when being sold to Provincial and National organizations. Although I forgot to mention this last time, apparently the Squadron Commanders did receive a memo from Ron Smith shortly thereafter, giving a full explanation of the rationale. The important points of the implementation are:

1. HQ will pursue wholesaling BP manuals, while at the same time encouraging purchasers and their customers/members to contact local Squadrons about course and testing.
2. Prices are as follows:
less than 500 = \$7.00;

500 - 1,000 = \$6.50;
over 1,000 = \$6.00

3. Where HQ can identify sales in a particular Squadron's or District's location, they will credited that Squadron or District for income in excess of \$6.00.
4. 25 cents from the sale of every BP manual will go into a special fund called the BoatPro fund.

On the agenda of the D/C's meeting at the National AGM is the BoatPro fund mentioned above. For every BoatPro manual sold, whether to Squadrons, Recognized Providers or the public, 25 cents will be credited to this fund. In other words, we will be taking part of the profit which would otherwise go into the CPS general funds, and earmarking it for special use. As I understand it this would be a continuing fund and from time to time some money from the fund would go to a special project. A committee has been set up under the National Treasurer to consider what sort of projects would be appropriate to fund from this source. The Committee is looking for input from anyone, including from the D/C's, at this point in time. If anyone has any ideas now or in the future please let me know.

As I write this I don't know if Port Hole will have reached you by the time of this meeting. If it has not I am taking it upon myself to disclose the proposed slate of National Bridge Officers. C/C - Dave Durward; NEO - Gordon Springate; NTO - Tony Gardiner; NAO - Ron Smith; Secretary - Howard Peck; Treasurer - Kent Barisdale. I won't go further down the list, but I need to explain that V/C Frank Phipps resigned as NEO in July following a decision by the Nominating Committee that they would not ask him to stand for election for the position of C/C.

As I said, Ron Smith is the nominee for NAO, and thus will be leaving his current position as Chair of the Marketing Committee. The Nominating Committee was very smart in asking our own Al Hinge to stand for that office. So congratulations to future Rear Commander Alan Hinge.

This would also be an appropriate time to congratulate J Connor, who has been asked by the Nominating Committee to stand for election as a General Director on the Governing Board. Bob Parke & Mary Pritchard will continue with their jobs at National, and will also be Rear Commanders.

Another item on the agenda for the D/C's meeting is the question as to what effect the BoatPro program is having on enrolments in our regular Boating course. Personally I don't see how you can narrow the question down this far. I would think that other factors such as the Operator Proficiency requirement and the emergence of 40 or 50 other teaching organizations are also part of the equation. I guess we can readily see if our Boating enrolments are higher or lower than before, but I guess the question is - why? Would anyone like to comment on that now?

A lengthy discussion took place relative to the impact of BoatPro on Boating and the impact this is going to have on our squadrons in the future. A great diversity of opinion exists on this particular matter.

Last month I sent to the Squadron Cdrs a memo I had received from Brian Burch regarding:

- (a) Continuing to have HQ collect membership dues
 - (b) Staggering the renewal process throughout the year.
- Likely this would be based on the Regular Member's

- (c) birthday, renewing family members on that date also.
- (c) electronic technology (e.g. option to pay by credit cards on the internet, bar-codes)
- (d) multiple year renewals at member's option and Prepayment Authorization

Since then I received an e-mail from Brian reminding me about this. He also commented that any problems we had this year were not with renewals, but with rejoins from 5, 10 and 15 years ago that required a lot of staff time doing searches.

This matter also is to be discussed at the D/C's meeting and then to be voted on at the GB. It seems to me that on the one hand we might feel that eventually all or most of these suggestions will ultimately be how things are done and that we should vote in favour of all of these options, provided that Headquarters can keep each Squadron fully informed of the current renewals and non-renewals, and promptly turn over the "Squadrons" money. On the other hand, maybe some squadrons may prefer to still handle their own renewals, and there may be good reason not to hand over too much control to H.Q. There has been some correspondence on internet on this - with thoughts both ways. The Secretary read the summary of Brian's Memo and the points raised by the Victoria Power Squadron. (summary of these points attached for discussion).

I need to know what the individual Squadrons think on these points, so I would like to put the two questions on the floor for squadrons only, and have a show of hands, that is just one vote from each Squadron Commander. This will give me an idea of what the Squadrons think when it is being discussed at National.

A lengthy discussion took place, covering many of the points. Most squadrons had strong opinions on the two major points. Chatham commented that centralized billing of CPS dues is still having problems i.e.: proper credits to Squadron. Concern was expressed over the lack of personal contact with members.

The squadrons were polled individually on both issues with the following results;

1. **They were strongly in favour of the collection of dues by National for a further year.**
2. **They were against the collection of dues throughout the year on the birthday.**

Normally we have a hospitality suite at the National Conference. If you would like us to have one we shall need approval of the appropriate amount of money for this. This has been \$500.00 in the past.

****** Moved by P/D/C J Connor, seconded by D/Lt/C Keith Roberts that D/C Tony be given \$500 for expenditure at the National AGM.**

******CARRIED******

The Secretary read a letter from National requesting all squadrons to make sure they are represented at the National AGM, and that it was their duty to make sure their votes were cast, either by themselves or by proxy.

If no one from the Squadron is going, then you can appoint another delegate, including, if you wish, the District Commander. If you appoint me, please let me know and give instructions on how to vote on issues. Make sure the delegate forms are properly signed and submitted.

National still does not have officer lists from some of the

squadrons. The forms have been sent out to the Commanders of record, and not necessarily the current ones. Get the forms from the individual it has been mailed to and fill it out properly. Please make sure they are submitted.

Again, your proxies to me, or your squadron representative must be signed properly. I have extra copies of those forms.

I was talking to John Gullick last Friday and John told me that most of our Squadrons have still not filed with him their current Bridge lists. Bob and I have mentioned this requirement at every meeting so far. This has now been looked after on your behalf.

Notice of Meeting is via the Port Hole, and I don't know what issues there are as yet.

D/Lt/C Rod Wraith, N., (Executive Officer)

The US Ensign

My only District activity since our June meeting was to attend the US Ensign celebrations organized by Cdr. Joan Hicks and the Tillsonburg Squadron on August 9th at Port Rowan. My wife, Inge, and I had a very enjoyable day and we wish to thank the Hicks family for their hospitality and Howard Wilhelm for his gracious invitation to cross the Bay to Port Dover and back aboard his vessel "Tris Too" to pick up the Ensign. The corn roast with a sausage and hamburger BBQ was delicious.

The RP Review Process

As chairman of the District's RP review Committee I have received no applications since our last meeting. As I mentioned at that time the review process for other applications can be much faster if they are sent to me prior to a regular meeting of District Council. This will allow our committee time to review them before we need to make the final determination. Since providing courses and exams appears to be a good source of revenue for Squadrons I hope that they continue to be the prime provider of BoatPro courses. Squadrons may wish to embark on a program of training additional instructors to deal with the anticipated increased demand.

The BoatPro Test

Our Squadron operated 3 BoatPro Challenges during the summer and we noted that young people seem to have little difficulty with the course but the vocabulary of the BoatPro Test 1 is basically above the reading level of many of them. This results in the need for examiners having to interpret the questions. While this is not a problem perhaps the training department might wish to consider this when designing future tests. One other item which arose was from a man who has had his driver's license suspended due to a diabetic incident. I spoke with Cdr Tony Pritchard and as a result sent an e-mail to HQ to Brian Burch asking him about whether or not any discussion had taken place regarding CPS liability if we grant a PCOC. His response was that we are not attesting to a person's ability to operate a boat or to his/her physical ability but only to the fact that they have the know-ledge of basic safety information of the standard developed by CCG.

Respectfully Submitted
D/Lt/C Rod Wraith N

D/Lt/C Patricia Pearson, AP (District Training Officer)

1. Results of the 1998-99 training year are as follows:

Passes	Btg	PI	AP	JN	N	SP	SS	OFF	ME	WE	IT	MM
VHF	BPr	BW	PS	Total								
1998/99	457	26	12		11	6	3	9	6	2	34	2381 13
40	2966											
1997/98	342	29	24	5	3	19	17	7	16	12	329	197 40
61	1095											

It has been an extremely busy year for all squadrons. I congratulate all of you for the extraordinary effort and enthusiasm given to the many new challenges of this past year. It was a job well done!

2. In October I will be going to Niagara Falls to attend the National Training meetings, which are part of the National Conference and AGM. I will need the most up-to-date Registration information from the STOs for my report. I would appreciate having the Registration Form 20 by the end of September, to include all courses registered this fall. (Form 20s are available from HQ, and I have some with me tonight).
 3. I will also use this Registration information to order exams, so if there are further registrations after handing in the Form 20, please let me know your updates.
 4. Windsor squadron has produced their own Course Registration Form for use within their own squadron. I believe they have brought samples if you would like to take a look.
 5. The new Boating Course Kit is now available. I brought a sample kit for those who have not yet seen it. I hope all the Training Officers have received the Training News Flash from our N/T/O Dave Durward, N, which explains the procedures for the new course and exams.
 - After completing Chapters 1-15, (or Part 1), which covers all of the requirements of the Government's Boating Safety Course Standard, the student can write the " Accredited Boating Course Exam" (which is much the same as the Boat Pro exam), with 36 questions, and requires a pass rate of 75% to provide the Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC) .
 - The Squadrons order the Accredited Boating Course Exam from National Headquarters.
 - The marking and paperwork for the "accredited exam " is the same as for the Boat Pro exam, but there will not be a fee for the Accredited Boating Exam that leads to the PCOC because it is included in the cost of the course material. If you have students writing a Boat Pro exam at the same sitting, they would write the Boat Pro exam, and funds must be forwarded for these people.
- Be sure to follow the procedures as found in the memos from National.**
- Those who just complete Part One can be offered CPS Associate membership along with their PCOC card.
 - After completing Part Two, the final Boating exam is a new multiple-choice exam that covers the entire course material, with a pass mark of 80% required for CPS membership.
 - We hope that most students will see the course as one complete course that gives them a more complete coverage of boating safety information.
6. D/Lt Joe Gatfield, AP will again look after five Squadrons: Windsor, Erie Shores West, London, St. Thomas, and Stratford. S/Lt Gary Henrich, N will continue to be the BEE (Boating Exam Evaluator) for Windsor, as well as Erie Shores West. And P/D/C Bob Gallagher, N will be the BEE, organizing the marking of the Boating final exams for London, St. Thomas and Stratford. The STOs from those squadrons should send the complete set of CPS 2 Forms to the BEE to

order their final exams for Boating, and to Joe Gatfield for the Advanced and Elective courses.

7. I will look after the other five Squadrons: Chatham, Goderich, Sarnia, Tillsonburg and Wallaceburg. P/D/C Doug Wilson, N will continue to be a BEE for the Tillsonburg squadron. I will look after the ordering of the final Boating exams for the other squadrons, as well as the Advanced and Elective courses.
8. Boat Pro has been offered in numerous ways in different areas. There is an excellent article by Dave Durward on the success of the program in the Summer issue of Today's Boating . Course fees vary in the squadrons between \$35 -\$ 60, with most in the \$50.00 range (depending on the cost of rooms). One squadron charges a group rate of \$40.00 per person (for a group of 20) at their facility, be it a marina, boat dealer, etc. Most squadrons offer marinas or boat dealers a bulk rate of \$8.00 per book (who in turn can charge \$10.00 per book). And CPS then offers the exam.
9. I received a MOST IMPORTANT message from our N/T/O Dave Durward (through D/C Tony Pritchard, N) that he wants passed along to all Squadron Training Officers and Boat Pro Officers, etc. Squadrons should be aware that "silent audits" have already been done by the Canadian Coast Guard on the procedures used by the Accredited Course Providers they have authorized to operate under the rules established in the accreditation process. They have witnessed blatant violations of these rules (not necessarily in CPS). If Squadrons in CPS are found to be guilty of any such action we stand to lose our status as an Accredited Course Provider.

So, make sure that your Squadron is following the procedures as laid out in the many memos that come with the accredited Boat Pro and Boating materials. A few additional comments:

- the presiding officer who supervises the examination room should be someone other than the instructor.
- make sure that exams don't leave the room with the student
- the examination room must be supervised at all times
- check results for possible errors
- if many are writing exams, use a second room for markers, reviewing exams, etc. - anything to add order and avoid distractions, both for the student as well as the markers.
- no photocopying of exams

Our Squadrons have always had dedicated and diligent members for delivering our many courses. I'm sure we can meet the challenge of the same care in delivering the accredited Boat Pro and Boating Course.

I appreciate your past efforts, and I look forward to another challenging training year.

Respectfully submitted
D/Lt/C Pat Pearson, AP

D/Lt/C Keith Roberts, N, (Administrative Officer)

I would like to congratulate Cdr. Joan and P/D/C Larry Hicks, Howard Welhelm and all members of Tillsonburg Squadron for the excellent program they provided in regard to the visit of the US Ensign on August 9th at Port Rowan harbour.

Thank you to London Squadron for hosting to-night's District Conference/Council Meeting, by agreeing to switch dates with Sarnia Squadron. Sarnia were unable to book for our September date but could reserve for the March meeting.

Thanks to both Squadrons for their co-operation.

A sheet was circulated at our last meeting, on which Squadron Commanders were to list a conservative number of their Bridge who might take an Officer Training Workshop. If we are to hold such a course this fall, while the weather is still reasonable, we need to know now if there is enough interested.(Poll of squadrons showed that most squadrons were not interested in and an officers training program at this time)..

D/C Tony and I met in August with two representatives from The World Association of Yacht Clubs - Float Plan Committee.... Don Bish - International Director and Carl Herron. Don Bish had been in contact with P/D/C Larry earlier this year. Larry has mentioned the Float Plan at a couple of squadron graduations, District meetings and our AGM. Brochures are available.

The Float Plan committee has received a lot of encouragement from the Canadian Coast Guard including a letter from the Acting Director General - Rescue, Safety and Environment Response. This letter is in their new brochure along with a quote from our Chief Commander Doreen, saying that CPS encourages the filing of float plans, which is a sense of endorsement. Also, John Gullick states there will be an article on the Float Plan in the first Port Hole of the New Year.

Here's how the Float Plan works: - When a boater registers - there is a one time registration fee of \$45 plus GST - he or she receives a Vessel Fixed Data Entry form designed by CCG. After receiving the completed form that provides information concerning the type and colour of boat, Float Plan sends out a private PIN that along with the 1-800 number that provides accesses to the service's computer. The boater can then file float plans before leaving port, as often as they wish, for as long as they own the boat, at no extra cost. The Float Plan works by recording when and from where the boater is leaving; the intended route; destination; a description and capabilities of the boat; where and when the boater plans to return; and what the predetermined overdue time will be. The information is monitored 24 hours a day. The float plan can be updated if the itinerary changes. When the boater safely returns, he must close the Float Plan. The information is accessed only when a vessel is overdue, and all stored information is turned over to the appropriate Coast Guard Rescue Centre.

Float Plan is a not-for-profit corporation, backed by The World Association of Yacht Clubs. Carl Herron has provided me with quite a few brochures. I encourage each squadron to pick up a bunch and consider Don Bish as a guest speaker at a squadron function. He has a lot of boating experience and can relate a number of incidents involving search and rescue.

Respectively Submitted
D/Lt/C Keith I. Roberts, N

D/Lt Joe Gatfield (Asst Training Officer): .
No report.

D/Lt John Pegg, S. (District Treasurer):

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSMENTS
FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 15, 1999.

BALANCE BROUGHT FOREWARD	\$14,948.99
RECEIPTS:	
Sale of a Badge	\$ 10.00
Interest on CIBC GIC	\$168.15
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 178.15

DISBURSEMENTS:

Cheque #1 John Pegg (Supplies)	\$ 11.48
Cheque #2 Bob Gallagher	\$330.41
Cheque #3 ING Banking Cert	\$13,000.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$13,341.89
CASH ON HAND	\$ 1,785.25

Note: ING Cert earning 4.5%

Respectfully submitted
John Pegg,S

P/D/C Bob Gallagher, N. (District Secretary)

Thank you again to those who have submitted their reports beforehand. It makes it easier to write up the minutes if these are submitted prior to the meeting.

There are only three squadrons presently submitting the minutes of their Bridge Meetings to myself. These squadrons are Erie Shores West, London, and St Thomas. Although squadrons are only required to mail a copy of their minutes to the District Commander, it would be helpful if you mailed a copy to myself in order to include any pertinent information in the Squadron summary chart. Thank you.

I am about to reprint a revised edition of the District and Squadron Officers. I have over 50 amendments to the present pink copy. Please check it carefully and let me know of any changes you see necessary. There are still some blanks I would appreciate being filled in. I will be printing the update around the first of October.

I again ask what information you would like to see included in the Squadron Chart report. I think future events in the District are particularly important. Let me know, please.

D/Lt Wayne Brown (PRO):

I'm sorry I am unable to attend today's meeting. My son and daughter-in-law gave my wife tickets to The Blue Jays /New York Yankees game for tonight and I couldn't back out. I assure you my thoughts are with you all.

The celebration of the USPS 85 Anniversary presented a golden opportunity to promote the Western Ontario District and the Tillsonburg Power and Sail Squadron. Commander Joan Hicks and the Tillsonburg Squadron are to be congratulated for all their hard work and a job well done. I wrote the attached news story concerning the Commemorative Ensign and sent it along with a picture of the presentation to; Bruce Troth at the USPS web page, Gam Magazine, The Great Lakes Cruising Club newsletter "Lifeline" and Jane Theodore, editor of "The Port Hole" magazine. To date I have received confirmation of publication from; USPS Web site, "Lifeline" No report.

I informed Ron Smith, Chairman of the Marketing Committee that the squadrons wanted to continue with the co-op program. I also suggested that National might look into the possibility of sponsoring Marine Weather Forecasts during the boating season on radio stations that bordered on boating areas like the Great Lakes. I later contacted Ron Smith by telephone and he suggested a nation wide sponsorship of Marine Weather would be a huge task, and suggested it could be done at the squadron level.

To assist CPS in preparing for future years, they have asked that our representative to the PR/Marketing Meeting at

the National Conference in October, bring our input and comments on the following:

- A) Which marketing programs have been most beneficial to your Squadron?
- B) What segments of our market (recreational boaters) should we target for future marketing?
- C) What additional Member benefit programs would you like to see the Committee investigate?
- D) Encourage Squadron communications to your members. How can it be improved?
- E) Squadron involvement in local/national trade shows.

PLEASE DISCUSS THESE ISSUES.

I have given Rod Wraith envelopes to be delivered to each Squadron Commander and Squadron PRO. I'm hoping the Commanders will encourage their respective PROs to attend the November 21 meeting to take part in a brain storming session on PRO ideas at the Squadron level.

Respectfully submitted
D/Lt Wayne Brown P

D/Lt Ron Jones (Membership)

No report

D/Lt Al Hinge (VHF Radio Officer)

My report to you will not include the number of applications for a Professional Radio Operator's Certificate sent to industry Canada since our spring meeting.

- Perhaps it is because the paperwork is in the mill.
- Or would it be because all students were not successful?
- Have officials in some mysterious government agency decided that an Operator Certificate is not required?

Whatever the reason it would seem to me that the spring and summer seasons of 1999 will not be remembered as periods of intense VHF Radio training in and around Western Ontario District.

Radio Talk Seminar is in supply at HQ. I urge you to include the Radio Talk Seminar in your fall and winter course planning. The seminar is a terrific introduction to CPS and can therefore serve as an effective member recruiting tool. This is one of our public courses and opens the way for our boating friends to acquire important life saving knowledge, techniques and skills, and the promise of new friends.

I'll share with you an e-mail forwarded to me and others on this bridge from R/C Bob Parke, Director of Radio Talk Seminar

"e-mail from R/C R. Parke" read.

With your permission D/C Tony, I'll advise R/C Parke that this request to field test the Radio Talk Exams and to acquaint Squadrons with the new and improved Radio Talk Seminar procedures will indeed, be received enthusiastically and that the Squadrons of Western Ontario look forward to this November and our participation in this pilot project.

It is said that to get to top of an oak tree, you can sit on an acorn or begin to climb. Sitting on our acorns is not a plan of action.

Respectfully submitted at this time.
D/Lt Al Hinge, AP
District VHF Radio Talk Officer

D/Lt Jerry Menard (MAREP Officer):

This report highlights both the Weather & Hydrographic MAREP Officers lack of information. Two years ago I sent out samples of the reporter's Registration Kits. Many Squadrons are not using this Kit, no doubt they have misplaced it or lost the information. Squadron Commanders should discuss this problem with their Weather and Hydrographic Officers again. If Squadrons are confused as to the proper procedure to be used for the Weather & Hydrographic Programmes, please contact me, D/Lt Jerry Menard.

Respectfully submitted
D/Lt Jerry Menard, S

D/Lt Jeff Evans (Environmental Officer):

The Western Ontario District of CPS has made a submission for the Wynn's Canada Envirosave Awards.

Western Ontario's historic link to the Great Lakes has been the catalyst for the social and economic development of the region. That same development has also put a heavy tax on the fragile aquatic ecosystem we so often take for granted.

Many Western Ontario Squadrons were busy with environmental projects during 1998/1999. Our selection committee had a difficult time choosing from the many exceptional entries. One Squadron's program did however step beyond their peers as their members tackled a serious environmental and safety hazard within their community.

The Western Ontario District Envirosave candidate is Wallaceburg Squadron for their participation in the "River Roundup" Program. A copy of the submission has been attached for your information.

Respectfully submitted,
D/Lt Jeff Evans

D/Lt Valerie Gujban (Youth Officer)

No report

S/Lt Alice Baratta (Boat Show Officer)

No report

D/Lt Judie Ladouceur (USPS Liaison Officer):

I attended the Port Huron Rendezvous, "Bridging Five Districts". Actually 6 Districts were represented, 2 members from District 2, New York, USPS, attended the great event. There were 204 boats and several land cruisers. The event was a success.

Model sailboat races, tours of Fort Gratiot and the Huron Lightship were just a sample of events for the weekend. I went on a dinghy cruise. We boarded dinghies at the marina, went upstream to a cut that drains into Lake Huron. Yes, Lake Huron has low water. We did not mind the COLD water of Lake Huron as the sun was a scorcher that weekend.

On the Friday night of the event we, District 9 CPS, cooked hundreds and hundreds of chili dogs for the 600 people.

The caterer had quite of job BBQing dinner for everyone on the Saturday night. After dinner, the flags (Canadian / US, CPS / USPS and squadron burgees) were presented. After the ceremonies, door prizes were drawn.

On Sunday morning, Columbus {Ohio} Power Squadron cooked breakfast.

London, St. Thomas, Sarnia, Wallaceburg and Windsor Power Squadron's had members attend the rendezvous.

As a USPS member I receive all pertinent mailings. A quote from a recent one written by D/ C Gert Baldwin. "Everyone enjoyed the 4 days of activities and we look forward to another Rendezvous hosted by District 9 Canada next year."

Thank you to all members who helped Commander Jay and I at this great event.

Respectfully Submitted
D/ Lt Judie Ladouceur

P/D/C Larry Hicks: (Immed Past Commander)
No report

P/D/C Jack Wittig - Nominating Committee:
No report

***Moved by P/D/C Earl Speller, seconded by R/C Mary Pritchard, that the District Officers reports be accepted as presented.

****CARRIED****

6. SQUADRON COMMANDERS' REPORTS:

CHATHAM - Cdr George Prins:
Report given by Cdr George Prins, see chart for summary.

ERIE SHORES WEST - Cdr Jim Birch:
Report given by P/D/C Frank Kelly, see chart for summary.

GODERICH - Cdr Walter Evans:
Report given by Cdr Walter Evans, see chart for summary.

LONDON - Cdr David Corke;
Report given by Lt/C Glenn McCann, see chart for summary.

STRATFORD - Cdr Gary Bidgood
Report given by Cdr Gary Bidgood, see chart for summary.

TILLSONBURG - Cdr Joan Hicks,
Report given by Cdr Joan Hicks, see chart for summary.

SARNIA - Cdr Chris Schooley,
Report given by Cdr Chris Schooley, see chart for summary.

ST THOMAS - P/D/C Jay Connor;
Report given by P/D/C Jay Connor, see chart for summary.

WALLACEBURG - Cdr Mike Croxford,
Report given by Cdr Mike Croxford, see chart for summary.

WINDSOR - Cdr Mark Stock
Report given by Cdr Mark Stock, see chart for summary.

*** Moved by D/Lt Al Hinge, seconded by P/R/C Ken Cucksey, that the Squadron Commander's reports be accepted as presented.

****CARRIED****

7. REPORTS OF THE PAST COMMANDERS

P/D/C Jay Connor: Since June, the only note worthy event was the First International Rendezvous in Port Huron on July 1

- July 5, 1999. D/Lt Judy's report will give numbers on participants.

My only comment is that I am disappointed in the poor attendance from CPS/ D9.

The Nominating Committee will meet before November 1st to start compiling a list of candidates for 2000/2001, but it will again be a difficult task as we have been "raided" by National.

P/D/C Bob Gallagher: no report.
P/R/C Ken Cucksey: no report
P/R/C Doug Wilson: No report
P/D/C Frank Kelly: No report
P/D/C Earl Speller: No report

**** Moved by Walter Evans, seconded by Jack Wittig, that the Past Commanders' reports be accepted as presented.

****CARRIED****

8. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COMMITTEES

- a) **Rendezvous Committee**
See P/D/C Jay's remarks in P/D/C reports.
- b) **Long Term Planning Committee:**
They will be reporting at the November Meeting.

9. NEW BUSINESS

D/C Tony assumed that all Commanders had received his request for comments on the AGM Agenda. He has only received two replies from that inquiry. There was some discussion on the matter and it was felt that the format should remain as is, but that the Host squadron should have some options as to timing. Schedule should be such that people stay overnight after banquet because of alcohol problems. P/D/C Doug pointed out that Tillsonburg went to 3 day format so that they could have a party on Friday night, with more socialization. Cdr George felt that 2 nights made it too expensive for the average member.

D/C Tony would not accept motions from the floor on the format. He requested that Cdr Wally and others wishing input should draft a motion to be circulated to squadrons for discussion, and a notice of motion placed on the agenda for the November meeting.

**** Moved by Mike Croxford, seconded by Jay Connor, to terminate the District Conference Meeting.

****CARRIED****

District Conference Meeting was terminated at 2148.

CARRIED****

Minutes of the District Conference Meeting September 15, 1999

DISTRICT SQUADRON REPORTS

SEPTEMBER 1999

SQUADRON	MEMBERS	COURSES	PAST EVENTS	UPCOMING EVENTS	PROMOTIONS
CHATHAM	Regular 248 Family 45 Jr & Ass 4 Total 297	BoatPro 20 Boating 11 VHF	Pro Challenge held at Mitchell's with very little interest, only 3 attendees. Pat & Lew Cole rescued 3 boaters in Lake Huron.	Fall registration Sep 8 & 14: Student night Oct 12, at Country View Golf course: Fall Land Cruise Oct 23.	Banner promoting fall courses displayed at Lacroix St overpass, early Aug to Sept 10. Advertising in Pennysaver and Shopping News.
ERIE SHORES WEST	Regular 160 Family Jr & Ass Total 160	Boating 9 Piloting 2		Bridge Meeting on Oct 14 at Leamington Court House.	Beach Cleanup at Point Pelee Park, Sept 26.
GODERICH	Regular 111 Family 20 Jr & Ass 18 Total 149	BoatPro Chal 28 Boating 13	Jun 30-Festival of Lights.	Oct 2 MAREP Day. Dist AGM Apr 2000	
LONDON	Regular 933 Family 152 Jr & Ass 41 Total 1126	BoatPro 70 Boating 97 Piloting 7 AP 4 Off Shore 6 Electronics 3 Seamanship 13 Weather 9 VHF 57	BoatPro last Sat of every month at General Marine Cruise on Thames	Course registration by e-mail and mail encouraged. Nov 26 th - 50 th Celebration, all invited.	Awareness - Week Aug 21/22 Info Kits for marinas.
SARNIA	Regular 232 Family 40 Jr & Ass 21 Total 293	Boating 20 Piloting 8 Boat Pro YTD 158	Very successful pig roast Aug 19 with over 100 people in attendance	Welcome aboard party on Nov 19.	
ST THOMAS	Regular Family Jr & Ass Total 184	Boating 6 Piloting 3 Advance Piloting 2	Registration - poor turnout.		
STRATFORD	Regular Family Jr & Ass Total 144	BoatPro 26	Barbeque for Officers and wives.		Local radio station promoting BoatPro.
TILLSONBURG	Regular Family Jr & Ass Total 346	Boat Pro Have passed 823 this year. BoatPro Challenge every weekend	Aug 1 Corn Roast social	Registration Sept 28	Tomato Fest to advertise classes. Advertising in newspaper.
WALLACEBURG	Regular 89 Family 7 Jr & Ass 2 Total 98	BoatPro 16 Boating 3	Aug 7, WAMBO. Members assisted visiting boaters and assisted in docking antique boats.	Oct 9-11 Fall Lay-up Cruise	Weekly advertising for BoatPro - poor response.
WINDSOR	Regular 614 Family 78 Jr & Ass 58 Total 750	3 Boating Classes, 1 VHF class 1 BoatPro class	Annual cookout.		

Summary of Memo from Brian Burch

Membership Renewals for 1999 were handled by National. The main reason for this was so that National could issue the Pleasure Craft Operator Card to all renewing members. They had a few problems, but Brian states that these have now been overcome, and would like to continue the job of renewing memberships. As membership grows, it is becoming a heavy burden on Squadron Officers involved and centralization of the process will allow continue growth with little added work.

At the same time, they would change the renewal date to coincide with the members birth date, similar to automobile driver permits. This would spread the workload over the year, thus easing the burden of the job. Much of the balance of the memo is spent explaining how the changeover period would be handled, and does not bear on the justification of the final results..

Summary of the points from Victoria Power & Sail Squadron >s Bridge Discussions.

Dues paid to National rather than the Squadron

PRO

1. It saves membership officer and treasurer a lot of work.
2. It may increase the uniformity of adherence to rules.
3. A service National offers to squadrons in return for National dues collected by them.
4. Individuals may be less likely to try to have late dues penalty waved

CON

1. Reduces the opportunity for members to be involved.
2. Volunteer effort will be replaced by paid staff, thus putting pressure on budget
3. It may reduce squadron's involvement in membership issues
4. It may reduce the personal contact and social aspects of squadron membership

Dues paid on Birthdays.

PRO

1. Spreads out the workload, although does not reduce it.
2. It may be easier for National or squadrons to cope with the work if it is spread out over the year.
3. It might be easier for members to remember to pay their dues if it is based on their birthday.

CON

1. It appears to create an accounting nightmare.
2. It is easier to run a little assembly line with squadron volunteers rather than do it in dribs and drabs over the year.
3. Problem with renewal of family memberships.
4. If members decide not to renew on their birthday, what does that mean to their possible position on the Bridge, which is held for fiscal year.
5. Some squadrons count on the membership dues income to finance the purchase of their educational supplies in the summer.

Additional problems not mentioned in above.

1. It would be difficult to run a follow-up campaign for renewals.
2. Reduces opportunity to contact all members for general opinions. (does not give an excuse or incentive to call)

DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING

Called to order at 2150.

Treasurer John Pegg submitted the following bills to be paid.

John Kabel (replacement cheque)	25.46
Larry Hicks	120.00
Tony Pritchard	126.55
Hammond Lodge (meeting room) 2 meetings	<u>200.00</u>
TOTAL	472.01

**** Moved by John Pegg, seconded by Bob Gallagher, that the outstanding invoices be paid.

****CARRIED****

Business from Conference Meeting.

**** Moved by John Pegg, seconded by Keith Roberts, that a gift of up to \$50.00 in value be purchased for a door prize at the National AGM.

****CARRIED****

**** Moved by John Pegg, seconded by Keith Roberts, that D/C Tony be given \$500.00 for expenditure at the National AGM.

****CARRIED****

**** Moved by Pat Pearson, seconded by John Pegg, that the Council Meeting be terminated at 2157.

CARRIED****

Bob Gallagher
District Secretary

NOTICE

DISTRICT CONFERENCE/COUNCIL MEETING

The Western Ontario District Conference/Council will meet on the following:

Date: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1999
Time: 1330
Place: COUNTRY VIEW GOLF COURSE
(Country View Golf Course is located on the east side of Highway 40 (St Clair St) about 8 km north of Chatham.)

Host: CHATHAM POWER AND SAIL SQUADRON

For the Purpose of:

1. Roll Call.
2. Approval of minutes from the September 15, 1999 Meeting.
3. Business arising from the minutes.
4. Correspondence
5. Receiving District Officers' Reports
6. Receiving Squadron Commanders' Reports
7. Receiving Past District Commanders' Reports
8. Report from the District Committees
9. New Business - Calendar of Events
10. Termination of Meeting

IMPORTANT NOTICES (Additional Meetings)

1. **LUNCH** will be served at 1300.
2. D/Lt/C Pat Pearson has scheduled a meeting for all **TRAINING OFFICERS** at 1200.
3. The **LONG TERM PLANNING COMMITTEE** will meet at 1230 for the final review of the Policy Manual.
4. D/Lt Wayne Brown is holding a meeting for the **PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICERS** at 1230.

NEWS RELEASE

In celebration of the 85th Anniversary of the United States Power Squadrons, (USPS), 5 Commemorative Ensigns are travelling throughout the US and coast to coast in Canada.

The Ensign started it's voyage in San Juan, Puerto Rico in June 1999 and will complete the journey in January 2000 at Orlando, Florida.

After months of planning, by the Tillsonburg Squadron, the Ensign arrived at Port Dover, Ontario, August 9th and was presented to Commander Joan Hicks of the Tillsonburg Squadron and Western Ontario District Commander Tony Pritchard by Gil Newton District Commander of Niagara District.

Several boat loads of District and Squadron Officers travelled from Port Rowan to Port Dover for the presentation escorted by; The Canadian Coast Guard Cutter "Spray", "The CCG Zodiac "Rescue 4" and The OPP launch from Simcoe. In all, 68 people signed the log book that is travelling with the Ensign.

Following the presentation of the Ensign, a barbecue was held attended by members from across The Western Ontario District as well as the mayor of Norfolk Township Hector Verhoeve and his wife Marilyn. The next day, the Ensign continued on it's trip across Ontario to The Georgian Trent District at Midland.

Congratulations to the USPS on their 85th year of "Safe Boating Through Education" and Celebration 2000.

Error! Cannot read or display file.